Circular Letter # 21

September 3, 1929

Collateral English Reading in Grades 3-8.

GOVERNMENT OF PORTO RICO

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

SAN JUAN

ADDRESS ALL OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION
SAN JUAN, P. R.

September 3, 1929.

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 21.
SUBJECT: Collateral English Reading in Grades 3-8.
TO : Supervisors of Schools, Elementary School Principals and Special Teachers of English in the Grades.

The following suggestions are being issued for your guidance in connection with the above subject:

1. Institute the "English Library Hour" in each grade above the second, and make use of it as follows:
   a. Have pupils of grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 read their supplementary readers during this hour, under the immediate direction of their respective teachers.
   b. Pupils of grades 7 and 8, likewise, will use this hour to read their supplementary readers. Part of the actual reading of the supplementary texts in these two grades may be done through "home assignments", with oral reports on same at this hour.
2. Replenish your English Room Libraries with books selected from our last year's lists and make efforts to subscribe for suitable periodicals for pupils of grades 5, 6, 7 and 8. The library books for grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 and whatever periodicals may be received for pupils of grades 5, 6, 7 and 8 may be read during the "English Library Hour".
3. The following may be counted among the chief objective in reading supplementary readers and periodicals in these grades:
   a. Pleasure.
   b. Information.
   c. Developing a liking to read English.
   d. Enlargement of pupils' vocabulary.
   e. Practical use of the English dictionary.
   f. Imitation of good style.
   g. Furnishing material to talk about.

If the above objectives are to be achieved excessive emphasis should not be placed on any phase of the subject that would make such collateral reading a drudgery to pupils.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) JUAN B. HUYKE,
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION.

jpb/cl